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News Releases and other News Material

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For further information about this booklet contact Charles Hobbs, editor, News Division, Office of Public Affairs, Room 406-A, U.S Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (202) 720-4026.

News Releases-

Release No. 0698.93
Doug Hendrix (301) 436-7253
Marci Hilt (202) 436-4026

USDA ALLOWS IMPORT OF PREVIOUSLY PROHIBITED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16--The U.S. Department of Agriculture will allow importers to bring certain previously banned fruits and vegetables into the United States.

A new ruling will allow bananas from Belize; pineapple, guava, mandarin oranges, papayas and peaches from Bermuda; lemongrass, tossajute and ginger from the Cook Islands; fenugreek from Jamaica; aster greens, youngia greens, strawberries and dasheen from South Korea; fenugreek from Panama; turmeric from St. Vincent and the Grenadines; burdock from Taiwan; pumpkins from Tonga; snow peas from Zambia; and yam bean root from Costa Rica.

Most of the new imports are specialty foods, either not grown in the United States or grown only in small quantities.

"USDA granted the new imports after determining that the fruits and vegetables could be imported under specific inspection and quarantine safeguards without significant pest risk," said B. Glen Lee, deputy administrator for plant protection and quarantine with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"This action provides citizens of the United States with additional sources of fruits and vegetables while continuing to protect agriculture from exotic pests," said Lee.

The rule change became effective Aug. 9 and is scheduled to be published in the Aug. 17 Federal Register.

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Release No. 0699.93
Bonny Wolf (202) 720-7711
Johna Pierce (202) 720-1691

USDA INTENDS TO DEBAR DAIRY COMPANY OVER SCHOOL MILK BID RIGGING

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 -- U.S. Department of Agriculture officials today said they intend to debar Dairy Fresh, Inc., of Greensboro, Ala., because the company pleaded guilty to bid-rigging contracts to supply dairy products to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Dairy Fresh has 30 days in which to submit information to contest the debarment.

"This action further underscores our commitment to maintain integrity in USDA's child nutrition programs," said Ellen Haas, assistant secretary of agriculture for food and consumer services. "With 25 million children depending on the school lunch program for daily nourishment, we will not tolerate doing business with companies that abuse our programs."

In April 1993, Dairy Fresh pleaded guilty to rigging school milk bids in Mississippi, south Alabama and the Florida panhandle. USDA notified Dairy Fresh today that they intend to debar the company.

Debarment by USDA could prevent Dairy Fresh from entering into new contracts to supply dairy products to school districts for up to three years. The company could also be barred from entering into certain other contracts including federal non-procurement programs government-wide.

"We will continue to closely monitor and take aggressive action against any company that we believe jeopardizes the integrity of the school lunch program," said Haas. "For many children, the school lunch program provides their only nutritious meal of the day. In a program that delivers essential meals to so many needy children, every available dollar must be used for legitimate program purposes."

Another company also pleaded guilty to conspiring to rig bids in the school lunch program. In March 1991, Kinnett Dairies, Inc., of Columbus, Ga., pleaded guilty to conspiring to rig bids in Georgia, Florida and Alabama.

Unlike Dairy Fresh, Kinnett Dairies entered into an administrative agreement with the Defense Logistics Agency, an agency of the Defense Department. DLA is responsible for taking suspension and debarment actions against companies which provide goods and services directly to military installations.

The administrative agreement between DLA and Kinnett requires Kinnett to implement certain preventive measures to provide protection for dairy products sold to both military installations and schools. Should Kinnett fail to comply with the agreement, USDA may initiate debarment proceedings.

Recently, two other firms were subject to debarment after pleading guilty to bid-rigging charges in the school lunch program. On July 21, USDA initiated debarment proceeding against Coble Dairy Products Cooperative, Inc., of Lexington, N.C., for bid-rigging activities in Texas and Florida.

The second firm, Borden, Inc., of Columbus, Ohio, pleaded guilty to bid-rigging in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. USDA did not initiate debarment proceeding against Borden since the company agreed to comply with an administrative agreement with the DLA.

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Release No. 0700.93
Ed Curlett (301) 436-7799
Marci Hilt (202) 720-4026

USDA ADDS MORE AREA TO MEDFLY QUARANTINE IN CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has quarantined an additional area of Los Angeles County following recent Mediterranean fruit fly finds, a USDA official said today.

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service added the Granada Hills area to the list of quarantined areas in California.

"These agricultural quarantines are designed to stop the spread of the Mediterranean fruit fly through fruit and vegetable shipments," said B. Glen Lee, APHIS deputy administrator for plant protection and quarantine. "The quarantine prohibits the interstate movement of certain fruits and vegetables out of infested areas unless they have been certified by APHIS."

The Mediterranean fruit fly is one of the world's most destructive pests of more than 200 kinds of fruits and vegetables. Heavy infestations can cause complete loss of crops. Losses of 25 to 50 percent are not uncommon.

In cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, APHIS will continue regulating the area until the pest is eradicated, Lee said.

Other areas in Los Angeles County already under quarantine include Hancock Park, Duarte, Griffith Park, Inglewood, Pasadena and Covina. The Artesia, Pico-Rivera, and Walnut Park areas of Los Angeles and Orange counties also are quarantined, and a portion of Santa Clara County remains under quarantine.

The interim rule, which became effective Aug. 3, was published in the Aug. 10 Federal Register. Comments will be accepted if they are received on or before Oct. 12. An original and three copies of written comments referring to docket number 91-155-6 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 804 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

Comments received may be reviewed at USDA, Room 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.

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Release No. 0701.93
Alicia L. Ford (202) 720-8998
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USDA PROTECTS 20 NEW PLANT VARIETIES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16-- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued certificates of protection to developers of 20 new varieties of seed-reproduced plants including bean, Kentucky bluegrass, cauliflower, cotton, lettuce, pea, pepper, perennial ryegrass, watermelon and wheat.

Kenneth H. Evans, with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said developers of the new varieties will have the exclusive right to reproduce, sell, import and export their products in the United States

for 18 years. Certificates of protection are granted after a review of the breeders' records and claims that each new variety is novel, uniform and stable.

The following varieties have been issued certificates of protection:

--the DMC 06-39, DMC 04-60, DMC 04-61, DMC 04-01 and DMC 04-33 varieties of garden bean, developed by the Del Monte Corp., San Francisco, Calif.;

--the Alpine and Indigo varieties of Kentucky bluegrass, developed by Pickseed West Inc., Tangent, Ore.

--the K-Tee variety of cauliflower, developed by Tanimura & Antle Inc., Salinas, Calif.;

--the DP 5690 variety of cotton, developed by the Delta and Pine Land Co. Scott, Miss.;

--the Stinger variety of lettuce, developed by the Asgrow Seed Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.;

--the Northstar variety of pea, developed by the Rogers NK Seed Co., Boise, Idaho;

--the DMC 50-04 variety of pea, developed by the Del Monte Corp., San Francisco, Calif.;

--the DMC 56-04, DMC 56-52, DMC 56-53 and DMC 56-54 varieties of pepper, developed by the Del Monte Corp., San Francisco, Calif.;

--the Vantage variety of perennial ryegrass, developed by International Seeds Inc., Halsey, Ore.;

--the AU-Sweet Scarlet and AU-Golden Producer varieties of watermelon, developed by the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station, Auburn University, Ala.; and

--the Tomahawk variety of wheat, developed by AgriPro Biosciences Inc., Shawnee Mission, Kan.

The certificates of protection for the AU-Sweet Scarlet and AU-Golden Producer watermelon varieties and the Tomahawk wheat variety are being issued for sale by variety name only as a class of certified seed and to conform to the number of generations specified by the owner.

USDA's AMS administers the plant variety protection program which provides marketing protection to developers of new and distinctive seed-reproduced plants ranging from farm crops to flowers.

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Release No. 0702.93
Dr. Jane Coulter (202) 720-7854
Phil Villa-Lobos (202) 720-2798

USDA AND NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY SIGN RECRUITMENT AGREEMENT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17--The U.S. Department of Agriculture has signed an agreement with New Mexico State University in Las Cruces that will help provide qualified Hispanic candidates for employment by USDA in the food and agricultural sciences.

In announcing the agreement, Wardell Townsend, assistant secretary of agriculture for administration and USDA's equal employment opportunity officer, said, "This agreement is a result of the memorandum of understanding signed by Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) on June 8. It reinforces the secretary's commitment to work force diversity at USDA."

The joint project will seek new approaches to job development, cooperative education, curriculum and recruitment. The USDA, in partnership with NMSU and HACU, will promote and establish a pipeline of junior Hispanic professionals ready for careers in agriculture.

A USDA executive will work with the College of Agriculture and Home Economics and other academic leaders at NMSU, as well as secondary schools in New Mexico and west Texas which serve Hispanics, to promote opportunities in agricultural careers for youth in the region.

Townsend said a proposed competitive scholarship program is being designed that will offer students tuition support plus part-time employment if they are enrolled in one of the participating colleges or universities in the test area.

If this project is successful the model will be duplicated in other areas of the country with large Hispanic populations, Townsend said.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Contact at NMSU is Rondeau Gurley (505) 646-1806.

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Release No. 0704.93
Steve Kinsella (202) 720-4623

U.S. TO DONATE ADDITIONAL WHEAT TO GEORGIA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17--The United States will donate additional wheat to Georgia under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food for Progress program, according to Mike Espy, Secretary of Agriculture.

The $30.0 million amendment to Georgia's fiscal 1993 Food for Progress agreement was signed today, and will provide about 160,000 metric tons of wheat and related ocean transportation costs. This action brings the total value of the fiscal 1993 program to approximately $50 million.

"Food aid donations help both recipient countries and U.S. farmers and taxpayers," said Espy.

"Georgia benefits by getting much needed wheat," he said. "U.S. farmers benefit because donations help take commodity supplies off the U.S. market at times when those supplies are excessive. As a result, this can enhance producer prices at a time when this is needed."

"In addition, these donations may help reduce budget outlays because they may reduce government expenditures under the target price provisions of the domestic farm program," Espy said.

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Release No. 0705.93
Billie Cox (202) 720-3329
Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

ALGERIA ELIGIBLE FOR SEMOLINA UNDER THE EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19--Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Joe O'Mara today announced an opportunity for sales of 50,000 metric tons of U.S. semolina to Algeria under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Export Enhancement Program.

Sales of semolina will be made to buyers in Algeria through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. These sales will be facilitated through the payment of bonuses by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation. The subsidy will enable U.S. exporters to compete at commercial prices in the Algeria market.

This allocation will be valid until June 30, 1994. Details of the program, including an invitation for offers from exporters, will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Janet M. Kavan, (202) 720-5540, or Larry McElvain, (202) 720-6211.

♦♦♦♦♦

Release No. 0706.93
Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206
Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

RECOURSE LOANS AVAILABLE ON LOW-QUALITY COMMODITIES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18--Bruce R. Weber, acting administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, today reminded producers that price support recourse loans from USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation are available with respect to low-quality commodities that do not meet the quality standards for CCC nonrecourse loans.

The grades of the primary price-supported crops for which recourse loans may be obtained are shown in the following table.

Commodity	Grades
Wheat	Sample
Corn	U.S. Grades No. 4, 5 and Sample
Soybeans	Sample
Grain Sorghum	Sample
Barley	Sample

Rye	U.S. Grade No. 3, if not because of "thin"; U.S. Grade No. 4 and Sample
Oats	U.S. Grade No. 4 and Sample

"Producers may acquire temporary operating capital through this provision as an alternative to marketing low-quality commodities at this time," Weber said. "Discounts for quality in the market are often at their highest when large quantities of low-quality crops are being harvested and placed immediately into market channels."

Weber also reminded producers that commodities pledged as collateral for recourse loans may not be forfeited to the CCC and that marketing loan repayment provisions are not extended to recourse loans. "Recourse loans must be repaid on or before the expiration of the 9-month loan period. Payment must cover principal and charges plus interest," he said.

As announced by the secretary on Feb. 22 (USDA Release No. 0138.93), county loan rates for farm- and warehouse-stored recourse loans for low-quality commodities will be reduced by the higher of: (1) the discount for low test weight or, (2) the discount for the grade based on the test weight. Prior to that announcement, loan rates were discounted once for the low test weight and again for the grade based on the test weight.

Weber said producers should contact their county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office for further information.

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Release No. 0707.93
Steve Kinsella (202) 720-4623
or Mary Dixon

ESPY RELEASES REPORT CRITICAL OF MEAT INSPECTION SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19 -- Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy today released an Inspector General report on a Nebraska slaughtering plant saying that it reaffirms his belief that the USDA meat inspection system needs to be changed.

"The report was on target and it only solidifies my determination to continue to overhaul and improve the system," said Espy, who had asked the Inspector General to conduct the investigation.

"The system collapsed. We can no longer allow business to be conducted as usual when it is obvious that an up-to-date meat inspection system is needed to protect the health of American families. We have a moral obligation to break the status quo."

The USDA Inspector General report was requested by Espy soon after a critical May 17 television broadcast focused on problems at the 40-year-old Cornhusker Packing Company, a meat slaughtering plant in Omaha, Neb. The plant, which was not identified in the television news report, was located after Espy instructed USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) personnel to locate it and take immediate enforcement action.

After the plant was identified, it was temporarily closed and placed on a more stringent oversight system.

Espy, who is committed to improving the USDA meat inspection system, has directed management at FSIS to follow the recommendations suggested by the Inspector General report and to incorporate the changes system wide.

Espy's directives to FSIS included:

*Create a profile of Cornhusker, based on available information, and compile a list of all plants nationwide that fit that profile. Once plants are identified a special review should be conducted and appropriate action taken if change is needed.

*Identify a point person in the Washington office to receive inspector reports from the field and do follow up on the reports if problems have been identified in plants and not addressed.

Much of the criticism in the report focused on the failure to adequately oversee conditions and problems at the Cornhusker plant by the FSIS regional office, the area office, the circuit supervisor and the inspector-in-charge. Staff changes already have taken place in the field and in Washington. The secretary said additional personnel changes could take place if needed. He has instructed FSIS to address all the personnel problems cited in the report.

In addition to his actions relating to Cornhusker, Espy has hired 200 new meat inspectors and directed FSIS to upgrade and revolutionize the meat inspection system. The secretary has called for regular unannounced special review of plants, stricter enforcement of zero tolerance of fecal matter on all meat, the development of scientific tests to detect bacteria, and the implementation of a two-track pathogen reduction strategy. Approximately $8 million has been requested in the 1994 fiscal year budget to fund the upgrades in the inspection system.

Soon after an E.coli outbreak in the west earlier this year, Espy ordered unannounced special reviews of 90 plants across the nation. As a result of the reviews, 30 plants were ordered to temporarily shut down to make improvements and 12 of them were placed on a higher level of inspection.

Last week, Espy also mandated labels on not-ready-to-eat meat and poultry products by announcing that by mid October the industry would be required to attach labels to all their packaging to better inform the consumer of proper care and cooking due to the possibility of bacterial contamination.

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Release No. 0710.93
Ben Hardin (309) 681-6597

OATRIM WINS NEW TECHNOLOGY AWARD

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20--Oatrim, a fat substitute invented by a U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist, has been named by Research & Development magazine as one of the 100 most significant new technologies of 1993.

A food ingredient made from soluble fiber and other complex carbohydrates of oats, oatrim was chosen for the "R&D 100" award by a panel of more than 75 scientific experts and the magazine's editors.

Chemist George E. Inglett of USDA's Agricultural Research Service created oatrim to appeal to health-conscious consumers looking for foods containing less fat, fewer calories and no cholesterol.

Inglett did the research at the National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, Peoria, Ill., and received a patent in 1991. Oatrim is now used as a fat substitute in various commercial foods, including cookies, muffins, no-fat cheese, extra-lean ground beef, bologna and franks.

ConAgra, Quaker Oats Co. and Rhone-Poulenc Inc. obtained licenses from ARS to manufacture and sell oatrim. ConAgra began replacing fat with oatrim in extra-lean ground beef about two years ago. ConAgra and A.E. Staley have formed a new business, Mountain Lake Manufacturing Co. located in Mountain Lake, Minn., to make and sell the fat substitute. Quaker Oats and Rhone-Poulenc are also jointly producing and marketing oatrim.

The R&D 100 Award will be presented Sept. 9 to Inglett at a banquet at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. Oatrim and other winning products are being honored at the museum in a three-week exhibit which opened today.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Contact for details George E. Inglett, National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, Peoria, Ill. 61604. Telephone: (309) 681-6363.

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Release No. 0712.93
Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206
Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

USDA REQUESTS COMMENTS ON UPLAND COTTON USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation is requesting public comment on how the "Step-2" user certificate program for upland cotton might be restructured and how the administration of the program might be changed.

The cotton user marketing certificate program is intended to assure the competitiveness of U.S.-grown upland cotton in domestic and foreign markets. The program provides for payments to U.S. textile mills and to exporters of raw U.S. cotton to ensure their competitive position relative to foreign mills and exporters.

The program, as currently structured and administered, encourages extraordinarily large export sales at the beginning of the program year. This may prevent the certificate payments throughout the remainder of the year from more closely reflecting actual market conditions and may reduce the program's effectiveness.

CCC is seeking comments concerning changes in the operation of the program to ensure that it interferes as little as possible with cotton marketing practices, does not overly influence decision-making in the cotton market, does not unnecessarily commit federal funds and does not unduly burden program participants with paperwork.

This notice was published in the Federal Register today and comments must be received no later than Sept. 20. USDA will carefully consider all comments and determine whether program changes are warranted. If proposed changes are developed, USDA will issue a proposed rule and again seek public comment before publishing new program rules in final form.

Comments should be sent to Director, Fibers and Rice Analysis Division, 3760-S, USDA/ASCS, PO Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013. All comments will be available for public inspection in Room 3760-S during normal business hours.

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Program Announcements-

Releases No. 0703.93
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Charles Hobbs (202) 720-4026

USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES, MARKETING CERTIFICATE RATES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17--Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture Charles J. O'Mara today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

--long grain whole kernels:	6.58 cents per pound
--medium grain whole kernels:	5.98 cents per pound
--short grain whole kernels:	5.90 cents per pound
--broken kernels:	3.29 cents per pound

Based upon these milled rice world market prices, loan deficiency payment (LDP) rates, gains from repaying price support loans at the world market price, and marketing certificate rates are:

	Loan Gain and LDP Rate	Marketing Certificate Rate
	.............$/Cwt.	....
--for long grain:	$2.03	$0.56
--for medium grain:	$1.84	$0.52
--for short grain:	$1.84	$0.47

These announced prices and rates are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Aug. 24 at 3 p.m. EDT.

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Release No. 0709.93
Janise Zygmont (202) 720-6734
Carol Childers (202) 720-9120

USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE AND USER MARKETING CERTIFICATE PAYMENT RATE FOR UPLAND COTTON

Washington, Aug. 19--Bruce R. Weber, acting executive vice president of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation, today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price or AWP), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (leaf grade 4, micronaire 3.5-3.6 and 4.3-4.9, strength 24-25 grams per tex) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment (CCA) in effect from 5:00 p.m. today through 3:59 p.m. Aug. 26. The user marketing certificate payment rate announced today is in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Aug. 20 through midnight Thursday, Aug. 26.

The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, provides that the AWP may be further adjusted if: (a) the AWP is less than 115 percent of the current crop year loan rate for base quality upland cotton, and (b) the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced U.S. growth as quoted for Middling (M) 1-3/32 inch cotton, C.I.F. northern Europe (USNE price) exceeds the NE price. The maximum allowable adjustment is the difference between the USNE price and the NE price.

A further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP may be made in accordance with this provision. The calculated AWP is 79 percent of the 1993 upland cotton base quality loan rate, and the USNE price exceeds the NE price by 1.20 cents per pound. Following are the relevant calculations:

I.	Calculated AWP	41.22	cents per pound
	1993 Base Loan Rate	52.35	cents per pound
	AWP as a Percent of Loan Rate	79	
II.	USNE Price	56.05	cents per pound
	NE Price	-54.85	cents per pound
	Maximum Adjustment Allowed	1.20	cents per pound

Based on a consideration of the U.S. share of world exports, the current level of cotton export sales and cotton export shipments, and other relevant data, no further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP will be made.

This week's AWP and coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price			
NE Price		54.85	
Adjustments:			
Average U.S. spot market location	11.82		
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton	1.50		
Average U.S. location	0.31		
Sum of Adjustments		- 13.63	
Calculated AWP		41.22	
Further AWP adjustment		- 0	
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE		41.22	cents/lb.
Coarse Count Adjustment			
NE Price		54.85	
NE Coarse Count Price		- 50.52	
		4.33	
Adjustment to SLM 1-1/32 inch cotton		- 3.20	
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT..........................		1.13	cents/1b.

Because the AWP is below the 1991, 1992, and 1993 base quality loan rates of 50.77, 52.35, and 52.35 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rate during this period is equal to the AWP, adjusted for the specific quality and location plus applicable interest and storage charges. The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates.

Because the AWP is below the 1993-crop loan rate, cash loan deficiency payments (LDPs) will be paid to eligible producers who agree to forgo obtaining a price support loan with respect to the 1993 crop. The payment rate is equal to the difference between the loan rate and the AWP. Producers are allowed to obtain an LDP on a bale-by-bale basis.

The USNE price has not exceeded the NE current price by more than 1.25 cents per pound for four consecutive weeks and the AWP has not exceeded 130 percent of the 1993 crop year base quality loan rate in any week of the 4-week period. As a result, the user marketing certificate payment rate is 0 cents per pound. This rate is applicable during the Friday through Thursday period for bales opened by domestic users and for cotton contracts entered into by exporters for delivery prior to Sept. 30, 1994. Relevant data are summarized below:

Week	For Friday through Thursday Period Ending	USNE Price	NE Price	USNE Minus NE	User Marketing Certificate Payment Rate 1/
	....	cents per pound	....		
1	July 29, 1993	61.60 (f)	57.31 (f)	4.29	3.04
2	Aug. 5, 1993	59.75	56.45	3.30	2.05
3	Aug. 12, 1993	57.60	55.50	2.10	0.85
4	Aug. 19, 1993	56.05	54.85	1.20	0

1/ USNE forward price minus NE forward price minus 1.25 cents.
(f) based on forward quotations.

Next week's AWP, CCA and user marketing certificate payment rates will be announced on Thursday, Aug. 26.

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